

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 H-02

PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 MC-02 /104 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

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R 302057Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
CINCEUR

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JANUARY 30, 1975:

QUOTE: Q. THE PURCHASE BY SADAT OF MORE SOPHISTICATED
FRENCH WEAPONRY, DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT FEEL THIS AFFECTS
THE BALANCE OF ARMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THIS. YOU HAVE READ,
I AM SURE, WHAT PRESIDENT SADAT SAID ON THE QUESTION OF
TIMING, ETC., IN PARIS, BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANY COMMENT ON
IT.

Q. IS THE SECRETARY THINKING OF CALLING FOR A STUDY ON THE
IMPLICATIONS OF ARMS DELIVERIES TO THE PERSIAN GULF?

A. I AM UNAWARE OF THE SECRETARY CALLING FOR SUCH STUDY.
I THINK HE ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO, I THINK IT WAS YOUR
QUESTION, IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, NOW, IN HIS PRESS CON-
FERENCE ON THE RATIONALE FOR OUR ARMS POLICY IN THIS AREA.

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END QUOTE.

FYI: DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HAD BEEN PROVIDED WITH FOLLOW-
ING GUIDANCE WHICH POSTS CAN USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS:

Q. IS IT TRUE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS MADE NO STUDY
OF THE LONG-RANGE IMPACT OF ITS LARGE ARMS SALES TO
COUNTRIES IN THE PERSIAN GULF?

A. I CANNOT DISCUSS THE DETAILS OF STUDIES CONDUCTED
WITHIN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. BUT YOU CAN BE SURE
THAT AS A MATTER OF PRACTICE THIS GOVERNMENT STUDIES THE
IMPLICATIONS OF ITS MAJOR POLICY DECISIONS. THE SECRETARY
SPELLED OUT THE PRINCIPLES OF THAT ARMS POLICY AT HIS
PRESS CONFERENCE THIS WEEK -- "ESPECIALLY IN (SUCH) AN
AREA AS THE PERSIAN GULF, IN WHICH WE HAVE, AFTER ALL, A
VERY MAJOR STRATEGIC INTEREST." KISSINGER

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